

**TOP SECRET**

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1 MAR 1962

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Assistant Director for Scientific Intelligence

**SUBJECT:** Capabilities of Sputnik 13

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1. Sputnik 13 was launched on 16 March by the USSR and is presently making approximately four daylight passes per day in the vicinity of [REDACTED] in the absence of valid information which would disprove that the satellite is an intelligence-gathering vehicle, which could possibly include a photographic capability. Interim procedures have been established to preclude compromise of the activities in progress. These procedures include monitoring

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2. Request a technical evaluation of the intelligence-gathering capabilities, both electronic and photographic, of Sputnik 13. In the event that this vehicle is credited with either an ELINT or photographic capability request recommendations on measures which can be taken to preclude compromise of sensitive activities.

3. Further request that notification of future launchings by the USSR be immediately forwarded to this office. Notification procedures should include follow up information containing evaluation of intelligence-gathering capability of the satellites.

[REDACTED]

STANLEY W. BEERLI  
Colonel USAF  
Acting Chief, DPD

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Handle via [REDACTED]  
Control System

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